

# Redlands 4th of July event to celebrate milestones

By Yazmin Alvarez

Fourth of July in Redlands this year will not only mark America's birthday, but also the 125th anniversary of the city and 40 years of dedication from one of the Fourth's organizers.

"You do not start out planning on doing this for 40 years," said Bill McCalmon, Redlands 4th of July committee chairman. "You plan one year at a time and you do it 40 times."

And time and time again, it has been successful.

"We have kept going because we have such a great group of volunteers. Many of our key people have been with us for more than 25 years and the Redlands 4th of July Band is into its 30's now. Redlands is fortunate to have a broad group of people who like being involved in the community and their efforts make it a better place to live and help create an event like the Redlands 4th of July," McCalmon said.

The event is among the highly anticipated and draws thousands out from Redlands, as well as its surrounding communities, for a day-full of family-friendly events and, of course, the long-awaited fireworks spectacular.

This year, the 24-minute show is guaranteed to be better than ever, organizers said.

Rialto-based PyroSpectaculars by Souza, one of the largest, most fireworks display companies in the nation, will be in charge of lighting up the sky this year.

The company has been responsible for the special effects at multiple Olympic Games, NFL Super Bowls, MLB World Series and Bowl Championship Series games.

But before the night sky begins to glow, guests can expect an array of entertainment.

The annual event at Ted Runner Stadium at the University of Redlands begins at 7 p.m. and will feature a flag program, which will be accompanied by the Redlands 4th of July Band under the direction of Curtiss Allen Sr., a flyover by four, WWII T-6 Texan fighter trainers followed by a skydiving show from 21st Century Skydiving.

Day festivities kickoff at 9 a.m. with the Redlands 4th of July Band at Sylvan Park, followed by the annual parade at 10:30 a.m., organizers said. Vendor booths featuring food and crafts from area businesses will be available along with activities such as rock climbing, and bounce houses for kids.

Redlands 4th of July shirts are available at the City Clerk's office, 35 Cajon Street in Redlands. This year, the shirts feature historic Redlands buildings from the turn of the century and the Redlands 125th celebration logo redesigned for the 4th of July, organizers said.

Park festivities will end around 3 p.m. and gates for the Redlands 4th of July event will open at 6 p.m. Guests ages 4 and older must have a ticket to attend. Advance general admission tickets can be purchased at City Hall for \$7 each, or \$10 at the event, organizers said.

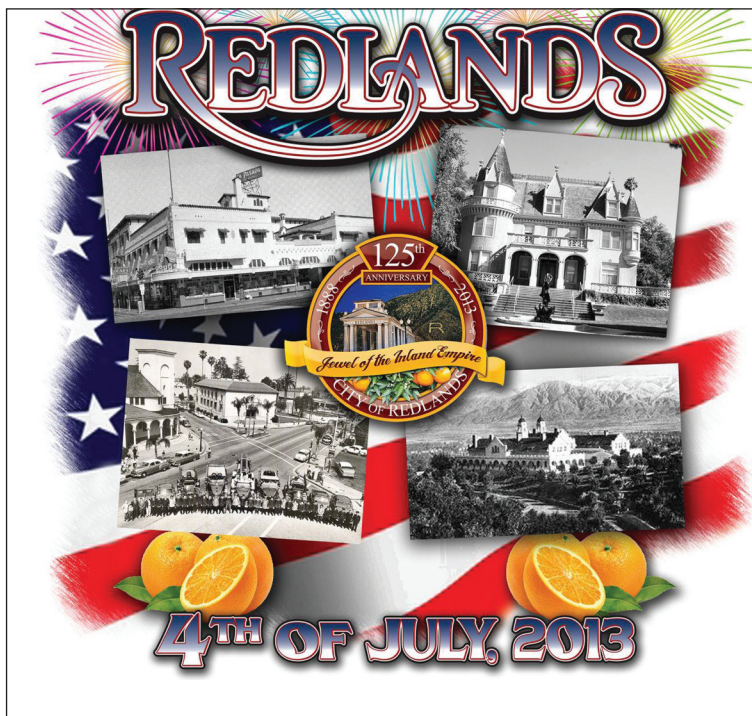
The stadium holds 6,750 people and seating is on a first-come, first-served basis, organizers said. Reserved spots are available for \$15 from the City Clerk's office before July 3 or can be purchased



COURTESY PHOTO

Festivities for this year's Redlands 4th of July event will include a parade, vendors, musical entertainment and an anticipated fireworks display by Rialto-based PyroSpectaculars by Souza. The event is expected to draw thousands to the city.

at the committee booth in Sylvan Park before 3 p.m. The fireworks spectacular will also be shown on a giant screen so all guests can enjoy the show, organizers said.



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## Tickets for the 4th of July event are available at the following locations:

- Redlands City Clerk's office, 35 Cajon St.
- Gerrad's Market, 705 West Cypress at Center St.
- Starbucks Coffee, 27512 W. Lugonia at Citrus Plaza
- Redlands Daily Facts, 700 Brookside Ave.
- Muffin Top Bakery, 233 East State St.
- Theron's Frozen Custard, 44 Nevada St.
- University of Redlands Hunsaker Center, 1200 East Colton Ave.

For more information visit: <http://redlands4thofjuly.com>



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**NO FIREWORKS ALLOWED WITHIN CITY AREAS NORTH OF THE 210 FREEWAY**

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